

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, CY, NATO

SUBJECT:NY TIMES ARTICLE ON NATO AND CYPRUS CRISIS

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DAVID BINDER STORY HEADLINED "U.S.
AIDES SAY CYPRUS CRISIS STRENGTHENED NATO" JULY 26 ISSUE
NY TIMES DATELINED WASHINGTON, JULY 25.

QUOTE

UNITED STATES OFFICIALS SAID TODAY THAT WHILE THE CONFRON-
TATION BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY HAD TEMPORARILY WEAKENED
THE SOUTHEASTERN FLANK OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANI-
ZATION, THE CYPRUS CRISIS ITSELF ACTUALLY SERVED TO
STRENGTHEN THE ALLIANCE.

THE OFFICIALS WERE RESPONDING IN PART TO PRESS REPORTS FROM
EUROPE SUGGESTING THAT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS THE
UNITED STATES WAS OUT OF TUNE WITH SOME EUROPEAN PARTNERS
IN NATO, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO GREECE AND CYPRUS.

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THE OFFICIALS WERE ALSO REFLECTING THE OPINION OF SECRETARY

OF STATE KISSINGER, WHO SPOKE DURING A RECEPTION LAST NIGHT ABOUT THE NEW QUALITY OF ALLIANCE CONSULTATIONS CREATED BY THE CRISIS.

"THE VARIOUS FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE ALLIANCE SIMPLY PICKED UP THE TELEPHONE AND TALKED TO EACH OTHER, MADE DECISIONS IN A FEW MINUTES ON THE TELEPHONE," HE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE OFTEN ACRIMONIOUS EXCHANGES IN THE ALLIANCE PROVOKED BY HIS CALL 15 MONTHS AGO FOR A "NEW ATLANTIC CHARTER," MR. KISSINGER SAID: "THIS IS THE RELATIONSHIP AS IT SHOULD BE, WHICH MEANS THAT THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE LAST YEAR HAVE BEEN TRANSCENDED."

HIS GUEST, FOREIGN MINISTER HANS-DIETRICH GENSCHER OF WEST GERMANY, REPLIED THAT ALLIANCE CONSULTATION ON CYPRUS HAD BEEN SO SUCCESSFUL THAT "WE HAVE COME OUT OF IT JOINTLY STRENGTHENED AND WITH A NEW BASIS OF TRUST."

MR. KISSINGER TOOK MR. GENSCHER WITH HIM TO SAN CLEMENTE, CALIF., TODAY TO MEET PRESIDENT NIXON.

THE SUGGESTION BY EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS THAT THERE HAD BEEN DISCORD IN NATO AT THE START OF THE CRISIS OVER CYPRUS WAS COUNTERED BY AMERICAN OFFICIALS. THEY SAID THE NIXON ADMINISTRATION HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN BEHIND-THE-SCENES DIPLOMACY IN GREECE AND TURKEY AT A TIME WHEN OTHER ALLIANCE PARTNERS WERE FREE TO TAKE A PUBLIC STAND AGAINST THE GREEK MILITARY LEADERS.

A TOP KISSINGER AIDE POINTED OUT THAT LAST FRIDAY, ON THE EVE OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS, UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE JOSEPH J. SISCO WARNED PREMIER BULENT ECEVIT OF TURKEY THAT IF HE WENT TO WAR AGAINST GREECE, HE WOULD ISOLATE TURKEY AND LOSE AMERICAN MILITARY AID.

A DAY LATER IN ATHENS, THE OFFICIAL WENT ON, MR. SISCO WARNED PREMIER ADAMANTIOS ANDROUSOPOULOS THAT IF GREECE WENT TO WAR AGAINST TURKEY SHE WOULD FACE A TOTAL CUTOFF OF AMERICAN ARMS SUPPLIES AND FIND HERSELF POLITICALLY UNCLASSIFIED

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ISOLATED, TOO.

ANOTHER STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL, DISCUSSING THE QUESTION OF DISCORD IN THE ALLIANCE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CYPRUS CRISIS, SAID THOSE NATO GOVERNMENTS THAT HAD TRADITIONALLY CRITICIZED THE GREEK LEADERS IN PUBLIC DID SO AGAIN. THOSE GOVERNMENTS THAT TRADITIONALLY REFRAINED FROM ANY CRITICISM OF AN ALLIANCE PARTNER REMAINED SILENT, HE

ADDED. THE UNITED STATES TOOK THE LATTER COURSE.

"IT WAS THE SAME LINE-UP AS ALWAYS," HE SAID.

THE ADMINISTRATION WAS STILL ACTIVE IN SECRET CYPRUS DIPLOMACY TODAY, AN OFFICIAL SAID, ADDING THAT PREMIER ECEVIT HAD BEEN ADVISED THAT THE UNITED STATES TOOK A DIM VIEW OF REPORTS OF REINFORCEMENT OF TURKISH UNITS ON THE ISLAND BY SEA.

OFFICIALS SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES SHARED THE VIEW EXPRESSED YESTERDAY BY JOSEPH M.A.H. LUNS, THE NATO SECRETARY GENERAL, THAT ALLIANCE MILITARY STRENGTH ON THE SOUTH-EASTERN FLANK HAD BEEN TEMPORARILY WEAKENED BY THE CONTEST BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY.

BUT THE AMERICAN OFFICIALS ADDED THAT THE GAIN REPRESENTED BY THE DOWNFALL OF THE GREEK DICTATORSHIP ON TUESDAY MORE THAN COMPENSATED FOR A MOMENTARY MILITARY FRAILTY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

"WE HAVE NEW DEMOCRATIC NATO NOW," ONE OFFICIAL REMARKED. HE POINTED OUT THAT WITH THE BLOODLESS REMOVAL OF DICTATORSHIPS THIS SPRING IN PORTUGAL AND NOW IN GREECE THE ALLIANCE AT LAST HAD A MORE OR LESS UNIFORM POLITICAL COMPLEXION.

JAMES R. SCHLESINGER, THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, SAID TODAY THAT THE NEW LEADERSHIP IN GREECE INCLUDED "A NUMBER OF OLD FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES AND NATO." HE SAID THAT HE EXPECTED "A CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE TWO NATIONS' JOINT GOALS OF A STRENGTHENED NATO ALLIANCE." UNQUOTE INGERSOLL
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